

To: CN=Stephanie Skophammer/OU=R9/O=USEPA/C=US@EPA[]
Cc: CN=Erin Foresman/OU=R9/O=USEPA/C=US@EPA;CN=Jennifer
Blonn/OU=R9/O=USEPA/C=US@EPA;CN=Sam
Ziegler/OU=R9/O=USEPA/C=US@EPA;CN=ThomasP
Kelly/OU=R9/O=USEPA/C=US@EPA;CN=Tim
Vendlinski/OU=R9/O=USEPA/C=US@EPA;CN=Valentina Cabrera-
Stagno/OU=R9/O=USEPA/C=US@EPA[]; N=Jennifer
Blonn/OU=R9/O=USEPA/C=US@EPA;CN=Sam
Ziegler/OU=R9/O=USEPA/C=US@EPA;CN=ThomasP
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Stagno/OU=R9/O=USEPA/C=US@EPA[]; N=Valentina Cabrera-
Stagno/OU=R9/O=USEPA/C=US@EPA[]
Bcc: []
From: CN=Tom Hagler/OU=R9/O=USEPA/C=US
Sent: Fri 2/1/2013 5:53:28 PM
Subject: Re: Corps scoping notice for Delta Islands and Levees Feasibility Study
spk-pao@usace.army.mil

Oh, I don't know. If this isn't coordinated with the BDCP process, it is embarassing again.

On the other hand, if someone is ever going to do anything about restoration in the Delta with federal money, it might be the Corps doing it, and I think the first step would be getting a feasibility study to Congress.

Maybe we could send in a short scoping notice that says we look forward to seeing how this is going to coordinated with the BDCP, the flood control planning, and the SJ restoration effort. And, of course, the SJ and Sacto ship channel projects.

Plus we can ask them to include in Delta WQS and TMDL implementation in the EIS.

Tom Hagler
Assistant Regional Counsel
U.S. Environmental Protection Agency
Region 9
75 Hawthorne Street, RC-2
San Francisco, California 94105-3901
Phone: (415) 972-3945
Email: hagler.tom@epamail.epa.gov

From: Stephanie Skophammer/R9/USEPA/US
To: Tom Hagler/R9/USEPA/US@EPA, Tim Vendlinski/R9/USEPA/US@EPA, Valentina Cabrera-Stagno/R9/USEPA/US@EPA, Erin Foresman/R9/USEPA/US@EPA, Sam Ziegler/R9/USEPA/US@EPA,
Cc: ThomasP Kelly/R9/USEPA/US@EPA, Jennifer Blonn/R9/USEPA/US@EPA
Date: 02/01/2013 09:48 AM
Subject: Corps scoping notice for Delta Islands and Levees Feasibility Study

Hello Delta Team,

I am bringing to your attention a scoping notice from the Corps for the Sacramento- San Joaquin Delta Islands and Levees Feasibility Study that was published in the fed register yesterday. The notice below doesn't say much, but there is a little more information on their website dated from 2008. The basics of what I can gather are that it started in 2006, is paid for 50/50 with DWR, and is supposed to be a decision doc that will eventually recommend construction of projects that address flood damage reduction, ecosystem restoration, flood storage, and "other potential problems within the Bay Delta."

At first glance, this seems ill-timed.

I would appreciate any immediate insight, or putting it on our team meeting agenda for a brief discussion next Tues.

Thanks--

Steph

Federal Register Volume 78, Number 21 (Thursday, January 31, 2013)]
DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE

Department of the Army; Army Corps of Engineers

Notice of Intent to Prepare an Environmental Impact Statement for the Sacramento-San Joaquin Delta Islands and Levees Feasibility Study

AGENCY: Department of the Army, U.S. Army Corps of Engineers; DoD.

ACTION: Notice of intent.

SUMMARY: The action being taken is the preparation of an environmental impact statement (EIS) for the Sacramento-San Joaquin Delta Islands and Levees Feasibility Study (Delta Study). The EIS will be prepared in accordance with the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA). The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (Corps) will serve as lead agency for compliance with NEPA. The Delta Study will evaluate alternatives to meet the study goals of restoring sustainable ecosystem functions and improving flood risk management in the Delta, Suisun Marsh, and adjacent areas.

DATES: Written comments regarding the scope of the environmental analysis should be received at (see ADDRESSES) by March 15, 2013.

ADDRESSES: Written comments concerning this study and requests to be included on the Delta Study mailing list should be submitted to U.S.

Army Corps of Engineers, Sacramento District, Public Affairs Office, Attn: Delta Study Scoping, 1325 J Street, Sacramento, CA 95814.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers Public Affairs Office via telephone at

(916) 557-7461, email at spk-pao@usace.army.mil, or regular mail at (see ADDRESSES).

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

1. Proposed Action. The Corps is preparing an EIS to analyze the environmental impacts associated with alternatives for restoring sustainable ecosystem functions and improving flood risk management in the Delta, Suisun Marsh, and adjacent areas.

2. Alternatives. The EIS will evaluate alternatives for achieving the purpose and need of the proposed action. To be developed through the Corps plan formulation process, the alternatives analyzed may include various combinations of ecosystem restoration and flood risk management measures designed to meet the dual objectives of restored ecosystem functions and improved flood risk management. The array of potential measures and possible combinations into alternatives will be determined based in part on information received during the scoping process.

3. Scoping Process. a. Two public scoping meetings will be held to present an overview of the Delta Study and the EIS process, and to afford all interested parties with an opportunity to provide comments regarding the scope of analysis and potential alternatives. The first public scoping meeting will be held at the Old Sugar Mill 35265 Willow Ave, Clarksburg, California, on February 19, 2013, from 5:00-7:00 p.m. The study presentation is scheduled to begin at 5:30. The second public scoping meeting will be held at the Sheraton Grand Sacramento, 1230 J Street, Sacramento, California, on February 20, 2013, from 2:00-4:00 p.m. The study presentation is scheduled to begin at 2:30.

b. Potentially significant issues to be analyzed in the EIS include programmatic, project specific, and cumulative effects on aesthetics, agricultural resources, air quality, biological resources, cultural resources, geology and soils, hazards and hazardous materials, hydrology and water quality, land use and planning, noise, population and housing, public services, recreation, transportation and traffic, and utilities and service systems.

c. The Corps will consult with the State Historic Preservation Officer to comply with the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966, as amended and with the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service and National Marine Fisheries Service to comply with the Endangered Species Act (16 U.S.C. 1536). The Corps will also coordinate with the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service to comply with the Fish and Wildlife Coordination Act (16 U.S.C. sec 661). Other resource agencies will be consulted with as applicable.

d. A 45-day public review period will be provided for all interested parties individuals and agencies to review and comment on the draft EIS. All interested parties are encouraged to respond to this notice and provide a current address if they wish to be notified of the draft EIS circulation.

4. Availability. The draft EIS is currently scheduled to be available for public review and comment in early 2014.

Dated: January 23, 2013.

William J. Leadly,

Professional Engineer, Colonel, U.S. Army, Commanding.

[FR Doc. 2013-02095 Filed 1-30-13; 8:45 am]

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Stephanie Skophammer

US Environmental Protection Agency, Region 9

Environmental Review Office CED-2

75 Hawthorne Street

San Francisco, CA 94105

(415) 972-3098